CLAIMS

1. A method of treating sexual dysfunction which comprises administering to a subject suffering therefrom and in need of treatment an effective amount of a bombesin receptor antagonist.

2. A method of preventing sexual dysfunction which comprises administering to a subject suffering therefrom and in need of treatment an effective amount of a bombesin receptor antagonist.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the dysfunction is associated with hypoactive sexual desire disorders, sexual arousal disorders, orgasmic disorders or anorgasmy, or sexual pain disorders.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the dysfunction is associated with generalised unresponsiveness and ageing-related decline in sexual arousability or with drug–induced sexual dysfunction.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human female.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human male.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the bombesin receptor antagonist has a preferential affinity for the BB_1 receptor.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein there is administered to the subject an effective amount of a non-peptide bombesin receptor antagonist.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the non-peptide bombesin receptor antagonist is a compound that is absorbable when administered orally.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein there is administered to the subject an effective amount of a bombesin receptor antagonist which is a peptide.

11. The method of claim 1, which comprises administering to a subject a bombesin receptor antagonist in combination with a vasodilator useful for the treatment of sexual dysfunction.

12. The method of claim 22, wherein the vasodilator is a PDE5 inhibitor.

13. The method according to claim 23 wherein the PDE5 inhibitor is sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. The method of claim 22, wherein the vasodilator is selected from alprostadil or phentolamine.

15. The method of claim 22, wherein the vasodilator is a VIP enhancer.

16. The method of claim 22, wherein the vasodilator is a compound that promotes production of NO.

17. The method of claim 1, which comprises administering to a subject a bombesin receptor antagonist in combination with a modulator of steroid hormones, a steroid hormone or a hormone product useful for the treatment of sexual dysfunction.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the steroid hormone is selected from oestrogens or androgens.

19. The method of claim 1, which comprises administering to a subject a bombesin receptor antagonist in combination with a neurotransmitter agonist or antagonist, a monoamine synthesis modifier, or a monoamine metabolism or uptake modifier useful for the treatment of sexual dysfunction.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the neurotransmitter agonist or antagonist is selected from quinelorane, ritanserin, para-chlorophenylalanine or imipramine.

21. The method of claim 11 wherein the bombesin receptor antagonist and the vasodilator are simultaneously administered to the subject in the form of a composition containing a unit dose of the bombesin receptor antagonist, a unit dose of the vasodilator and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

22. The method of claim 17 wherein the bombesin receptor antagonist and the modulator of steroid hormones, steroid hormone or hormone product are simultaneously administered to the subject in the form of a composition containing a unit dose of the bombesin receptor antagonist, a unit dose of the modulator of steroid hormones, steroid hormone or hormone product and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

23. The method of claim 19 wherein the bombesin receptor antagonist and the neurotransmitter agonist or antagonist, monoamine synthesis modifier, or monoamine metabolism or uptake modifier are simultaneously administered to the subject in the form of a composition containing a unit dose of the bombesin receptor antagonist, a unit dose of the neurotransmitter agonist or antagonist, monoamine synthesis modifier, or monoamine metabolism or uptake modifier and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.